JOSEPH McCUNE.

JANUARY 29, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 1473.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, having had under consideration the bill (H. R. 1473) increasing the pension of Joseph McCune, report:

This man served in Company A, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, from August 11, 1862, to June 21, 1865, and was honorably discharged. He is pensioned under the general law at \$17 per month for rheumatism and resulting disease of heart, and disease of eyes. He is totally blind, and the Pension Office holds—the medical branch—that his total blindness is due to optic nerve atrophy, and can not be accepted as due to the sore eyes shown in service.

He is pensioned for disease of eyes as of service origin and his loss of sight is due to disease of eyes. There is no evidence of vicious habits and no evidence of any cause for his blindness aside from disease of eyes, which has been admitted to be of service origin.

The passage of the bill is therefore recommended, with an amendment striking out the words "from and after the passage of this act," in line 8.